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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois General Assembly are
3 saddened to learn of the death of former Illinois State
4 Representative Joel D. Brunsvold of Milan, who passed away on
5 September 7, 2010; and

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WHEREAS, Joel Brunsvold was born on February 26, 1942, in
7 Mason City, Iowa; he was the son of Burnell and Esther
8 Brunsvold; he married Barbara L. Bashaw on February 22, 1964,
9 in Rock Island; and

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WHEREAS, Joel Brunsvold graduated from Rock Island High
11 School in 1960, where he was a football and baseball standout;
12 he then earned his bachelor's degree from Augustana College in
13 1964, where he lettered in both football and baseball; and

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WHEREAS, Joel Brunsvold had a distinguished career in
15 education; he began his teaching career at Coyne Center Grade
16 School; he later moved to Sherrard High School, where he taught
17 science and coached football and track; during his teaching
18 career, he was elected to serve as a Trustee for the Village of
19 Milan; he was then elected to serve as Mayor of the Village of
20 Milan in 1977, where he served for 2 successful terms until
21 1983; and

1 WHEREAS, In 1982, Joel Brunsvold was elected to serve in
2 the Illinois House of Representatives, where he served with
3 dignity and integrity for 11 terms; as a State Representative,
4 he chaired the House Agriculture and Conservation and
5 Elementary and Secondary Education Committees and was
6 appointed by the Speaker of the House to serve as the
7 Democratic Caucus Chairman and Assistant Majority Leader;
8 during this time, he also founded and co-chaired the Illinois
9 Legislative Sportsman's Caucus, an organization that raised
10 money and awareness for outdoor activities for disabled youth;
11 in 2003, he was selected to serve as Director of the Illinois
12 Department of Natural Resources, where he served until his
13 retirement in 2005; and

14 WHEREAS, Joel Brunsvold was a member of St. Matthew
15 Lutheran Church in Milan and numerous state and local sports
16 and wildlife organizations; and

17 WHEREAS, Joel Brunsvold was preceded in death by his
18 parents; his brother, Jerome; his father-in-law, Earl Bashaw;
19 and his brother-in-law, Dennis Bashaw; and

20 WHEREAS, Joel Brunsvold is survived by his beloved wife of
21 46 years, Barbara; his sons and daughter-in-law, Timothy Joel
22 Brunsvold and Theodore J. and Elizabeth Brunsvold; his
23 granddaughters, Lauren and Grace Brunsvold; his brothers and

1 sisters-in-law, Bruce and Penny Brunsvold and Brian and JoAnne
2 Brunsvold; his mother-in-law, Virginia Bashaw; his
3 sister-in-law, Josie Bashaw; and his nephews and nieces and
4 their spouses, Justin, Lisa, and Kari Brunsvold, Douglas
5 (Christie) Brunsvold, Jason Brunsvold, Abby (Ronnie) Mentarbo,
6 and Anna Bashaw; and

7 WHEREAS, Joel Brunsvold will be remembered by all who knew
8 and loved him as a dedicated legislator, a devoted family man,
9 an avid sportsman, and a loyal friend and public servant;
10 therefore, be it

11 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
12 NINETY-SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THE
13 SENATE CONCURRING HEREIN, that we mourn, along with his family
14 and friends, the passing of our former friend and colleague,
15 Joel Brunsvold; and be it further

16 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
17 presented to the family of Joel Brunsvold as an expression of
18 our sympathy.